

RANDOLPH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT 2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT



Randolph County Public Health Mission Statement

The mission of the Randolph County Health Department is to preserve, protect, and improve the health of the community. This mission is accomplished through the collection and dissemination of health information, education and service programs aimed at the prevention of disease, protection of the environment and improvement of the quality of life for our citizens.

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A LETTER FROM THE HEALTH DIRECTOR



Dear Friends of
Public Health,

This year the
health department
faced both

accomplishments and challenges. On November 1, 2013, services such as Communicable Disease, BCCCP, and Family Planning began being offered by appointments. This was done in an effort to prepare our clients for the integrated clinic system that would be implemented January 2, 2014. The integrated clinic system included cross-training of staff, client appointments, a centralized nursing station and streamlined educational material. The main goal of the change was to improve continuity of care for clients and better utilize agency resources. Overall, clients comments regarding the change were positive and encouraging.

I am delighted to say we achieved accreditation status with the North Carolina Local Health Department Accreditation (NCLHD) Board. An accreditation site team assessed the health department on April 29, 30 and May 1, 2014 and recommended the department for full accreditation. The NCLHD Board voted unanimously on June 20, 2014 to award the health department with an official accredited status. I am extremely proud of our staff, our Board of Health and our community partners for all of their valuable contributions, not only to the accreditation process, but to public health each and every day.



ANIMAL CONTROL

Animal Control had several major accomplishments during FY 2013-14. The first of which was the installation of new police radios in all trucks. The radios provide better communication and allow for direct contact for Animal Control Officers seeking help and/or assistance from law enforcement, EMS and fire personnel. They also help emergency communications (911) to know when on-call officers are out during nights and weekends, and to check the officer's safety when out on a call.

Secondly, Animal Control Officers had the opportunity to attend continuing education classes during the year. One officer was sent to a Wildlife Resource Class. This class provided contacts for local wildlife officers and biologists. It also trained the officer to better educate the public regarding wildlife issues by explaining:

- ◆ Native species from North Carolina (fox, raccoon, coyotes, etc.)
- ◆ Animal descriptions
- ◆ Range and types of food sources

Another officer attended a class titled "Adoption Options", regarding animal shelter related issues. Consequently, an assessment was conducted at the shelter to ensure the safety and health of the animals. As a result, dogs and cats were moved to strategic locations to avoid cross contamination of those animals being brought in as strays or those being considered for adoption. The ammonium based agents used at the shelter to clean kennels were replaced with products containing accelerated hydrogen peroxide. The change in cleaner is healthier for the animals and is intended to decrease such diseases as Parvo and Coccidia inside the shelter.

Furthermore, two additional staff received certification as Rabies Technicians. They can now administer rabies vaccinations for those owners who may visit the shelter to reclaim their pets. This is done for a minimal cost of \$10.00.

Lastly, Randolph County's New Leash on Life Program received a \$10,000 grant from Pet Smart. The New Leash on Life Program allows minimum and medium custody state prisons to partner with local animal shelters, animal welfare agencies and/or private non-profit agencies to train dogs in preparation for their adoption. Selected dogs are placed with inmate trainers in a prison setting for eight-twelve weeks. The inmates teach the dogs basic obedience, house training and socialization skills.

Additionally, as part of the New Leash on Life Program, three Animal Control Officers underwent criminal background checks and received training from the Department of Public Safety to allow them to enter and transport prisoners from the Randolph County Correctional Center. Prisoners are brought to the animal shelter where they train dogs selected for the New Leash on Life Program.



THE RANDOLPH GUIDE

PetSmart writes big check for New Leash on Life program

SHEBORO — PetSmart Charities presented a check for \$10,000 to the New Leash on Life program. The presentation was held last Friday in front of the Sheboro PetSmart store at 1222 E. Dixie Drive. Accepting the check was NIMI Cooper, director of the Randolph County Health Department, which oversees the county Animal Shelter and the New Leash on Life program, which is carried out in collaboration with the local Correctional Facility. Inmates work with dogs from the shelter to train them and make them adoptable. New Leash on Life has been training dogs for three years and has been a rewarding program for both the dogs and the inmates. The dog graduates are given the AKC Canine Good Citizens test. In the photo, Cooper, center, receives the check from Raleigh PetSmart District Manager Tony Meadows, left, and Jill Smith, Greensboro district manager.

Photo by Larry Penkava



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2013 — 7A

CHILD HEALTH

Child Care Health Consultant

Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment in Child Care (NAPSACC) is a program coordinated by Child Care Consultants and offered through child care facilities in some North Carolina counties. The Program is geared towards children 2-5 years old and focuses on nutrition and physical activity. New information regarding infant play activities show that by age one, 37% of infants are watching television daily, 19% have a TV in their bedroom and 10% have been exposed to mobile devices. Data also show that infants who spend too much time in confining equipment such as car seats, swings, bouncy seats, exersaucers and strollers may experience delayed motor skills.

Therefore, questions related to infant play activities and routines were added to the NAPSACC self-assessments, as well as a separate

assessment on breastfeeding and infant feeding. As a result of the assessments, topics chosen for improvement included teacher practices, program policies and other program offerings related to supporting breastfeeding and feeding infants.

Child care facilities have now started to expand their outdoor learning environments to include spaces for infants. They also have access to a new educational program “Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care”. This program will educate interested child care programs in ways to support and encourage mothers who continue to breastfeed while their children attend child care facilities.



**Breastfeeding
Welcome Here**

Pregnancy Care Management (PCM) & Care Coordination for Children (CC4C)

Both care management programs provide case management for targeted high risk clients who participate in Medicaid. PCM targets high risk pregnancies in an effort to reduce preterm deliveries in North Carolina. CC4C targets high risk children aged birth to 5 years in an effort to assist these children with available resources.

Until this year, case management services at the health department were provided by registered nurses only. The program model for both PCM and CC4C is to provide services through registered nurses and social workers as well. This year, the health department was able to add a social worker who had experience in Child Protective Services. This position is shared between PCM and CC4C. Both programs have benefited substantially from this addition. As a result of program enhancements, Randolph County’s PCM and CC4C programs continue to grow stronger and more efficient. All benchmarks throughout the 2013-14 fiscal year improved.



COMMUNICABLE DISEASE AND PREPAREDNESS

Communicable Disease

In March 2014, the health department received a call from a long-term care facility regarding an influenza outbreak. Public health staff worked with the facility to conduct active case findings and ensure understanding and adherence to the North Carolina Division of Public Health / CDC Guidelines for an influenza outbreak.

The outbreak resulted in three resident deaths and four hospitalizations. Residents and employees who were not sick received Tamiflu, group activities were cancelled and meals were delivered to the residents' room. The cause of the outbreak is unknown, however, age, health status and living conditions likely contributed to the spread of influenza.

In general, Communicable Disease trends show:

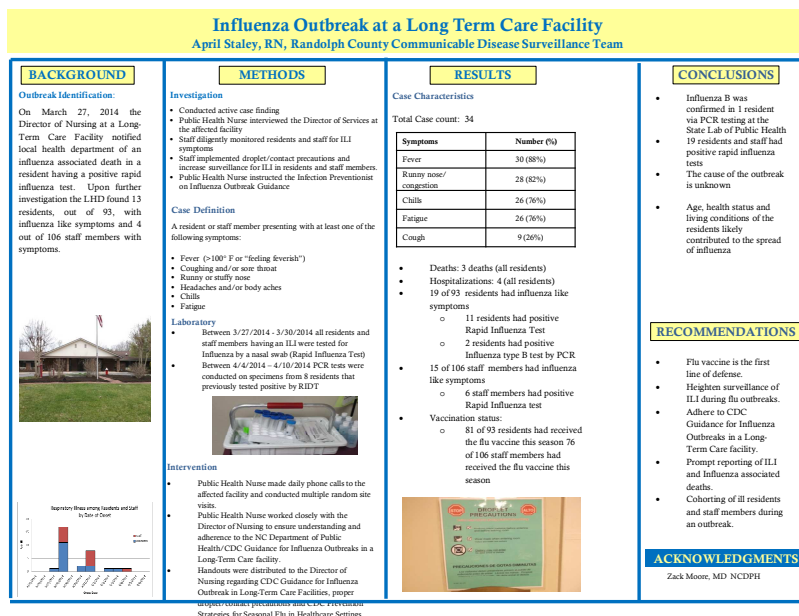
- ◆ An increase of 36% in sexually transmitted infections (STI) compared to the previous year.
- ◆ Pertussis has decreased this year by 47% when compared to last year.

Preparedness

On March 7, 2014, Randolph County experienced a wintry weather event that would be declared a federal disaster by FEMA. This weather event included snow, sleet and freezing rain, resulting in significant accumulation of one quarter to one-half inch of ice, crippling the interstates and roads within the county.

Prior to the event, Health Department Preparedness staff had begun preparation for the threat. Employee contact information was updated and a list of staff who would serve as potential shelter workers was established. Preparedness staff were actively briefed on the changing weather conditions and how employee notification would take place in the event an emergency shelter had to be opened.

The Emergency Operation Center (EOC) was opened, as hundreds of calls flooded the 911 center. Later that day the decision to open an emergency shelter was made by Randolph County Emergency Management. Health Department staff assisted by Asheboro Fire Department, First Baptist Church of Asheboro, American Red Cross, and DSS activated the shelter the evening of March 7th. The shelter was later closed the following day as it was no longer deemed necessary.



DENTAL HEALTH

Since 1996, dental programs across the state and the North Carolina Oral Health Section have partnered to conduct an Oral Health Assessment for kindergarten and fifth grade students attending public schools. Screeners count the number of decayed, missing and filled teeth and note the presence of dental sealants. This information is used to measure needs and progress from county to county.

Each September a calibration training to assure accuracy and reliability of screenings is conducted at several locations across the state.

These calibration sessions are essential to protect the validity of Oral Health Assessment.

In September 2013, the health department's dental program had the opportunity to host one of the four Oral Health Assessment Calibration sessions.

This involved locating a school with the appropriate number of students that had a principal and staff willing to participate, and a room large enough for ten-twelve dental hygienists to screen students.

Dental staff ordered all supplies needed, set up the screening room and located lodging for those traveling a distance. The Calibration session was held at Balfour Elementary with ten public health dental hygienists participating and demonstrating the appropriate skills to do the Assessment.

A total of 5,320 children were screened by Randolph County Dental Program Staff during FY 2013-14. A total of 5,128 children were screened the previous year.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Food, Lodging and Institutions

Food and Lodging staff worked understaffed during FY2013-14 because of an Environmental Health Specialist position vacancy. This made completion of 100% of quarterly inspections impossible to accomplish.

In addition to daily inspections, there have been several lead investigations involving individuals and day cares during the year. A significant ice storm in March 2014 also required staff to ensure establishments who lost power knew what to do. A real positive occurrence was the capability of staff being able to complete inspection forms electronically in the field rather than having to write out everything only to have to enter the information into the state reporting system once they returned to the office.

Trends noticed by staff for FY2013-14 include:

- ◆ An increase in the number of food vendors attending festivals during September through November.
- ◆ Establishments that seem content to accept lesser grades or ratings verses making corrections, then requesting a re-inspection as would have been the case in previous years.



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

On-site Wastewater and Wells

This year, Environmental Health Staff were faced with a new problem, an increase in Meth production. There have been ten Clandestine Drug Labs raided and closed by the Randolph County Sheriff's office and State Bureau of Investigation. Although this seems like a criminal matter exclusively, it is not. The local health department is tasked with notification of finding duties, pre and post decontamination inspections, and a lot of paperwork. The primary purpose is to make sure that the structure is decontaminated prior to re-occupancy. However, it takes a lot of time to work with home owners who have been devastated by a family member or tenant who has created a hazardous condition on their property. The clean-up is a very labor intensive and costly endeavor. Many times the home is not worth decontamination cost. The process can be smooth when the owner accepts the responsibility and works to correct the problems. Nevertheless, it can be very time consuming chasing owners who are not willing to correct the situation.

Increased reliance on GPS/GIS technology in conjunction with the permitting software allows for the production of permits to be better and more accurate. These technological advances have also given staff the ability to continue making changes and improvements in business practices and processes, which offers the public a better product in a more timely and efficient manner. Utilization to the GPS technology allows staff to pinpoint soil borings at sub-meter accuracy anywhere in Randolph County. These points can be imported into the county GIS program in turn creating accurate computer generated drawings.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Healthy Communities

The health department farmers market reopened for the fourth year on March 26, 2014. On June 4 an Open House was hosted at the market. Free tasting samples such as strawberry bread, fresh goat cheese and pork sliders were provided by local vendors. In addition, a reusable grocery tote was given to every shopper, as well as opportunities to win prizes. The Open House was held from 11 a.m. -1 p.m and approximately 200 individuals attended the event. The health department farmers market is open every Wednesday during the season. Each week, local vendors brought a variety of seasonal plants, fruits and vegetables, homemade baked goods, jams, jellies, fresh goat cheese and farm raised pork and chicken products. The health department was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Community Transformation Grant to help enhance the farmers market. Items such as tents, tables, coolers, food scales, cooking utensils, signage, etc. were purchased for vendors.

Health department hosts Farmers Market

ASHEBORO — The Randolph County Health Department will host a Farmers Market Open House today from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. The market will be located in front of the health department's main entrance at the Ira McDowell Center, 2222-B S. Fayetteville St., Asheboro. Free tasting samples, such as strawberry cobbler, fresh goat cheese and pork sliders, will be provided by local vendors and a reusable grocery tote will be given to every shopper, while supplies last. There will also be drawings for prizes. The community can purchase locally grown fruits and vegetables every Wednesday from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., now through the end of October. Each week, local vendors will bring a variety of seasonal fruits and vegetables, homemade baked goods, jams, jellies, plants, fresh goat cheese and farm raised pork and chicken products. For more information, call Wendy Kenyon, health educator, at (336) 318-6196.



Operation Medicine Drop and Car Seat Safety Clinic



April 26, 2014
10:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.
CVS Pharmacy

215 S Main St., Randleman



Sponsored by:



Safe Kids

The mission of Safe Kids is “to protect children, birth to age 19, from unintentional, preventable childhood injuries and resulting deaths”. Safe Kids Randolph County focuses on safety areas such as child passenger, medication, bicycle, pedestrian, heat stroke, and fire. Clinics and events were held throughout the year to promote such safety areas. In addition, Safe Kids Randolph County helped to provide car seats, outlet covers and digital thermometers to parents and caregivers who have children enrolled in the Head Start Program.

WIC / NUTRITION

During FY2013-14 the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program continued preparations for North Carolina (NC) Crossroads WIC System implementation. Crossroads will replace a 30 year old system known as the NC WIC Automated Data Processing System and will enforce federal requirements to ensure accountability and automation of a currently paper-based system. Once fully operational the new system will improve services and make the whole process much easier for clients, vendors and staff. The state began implementation of the upgraded system in selected counties in North Carolina during May 2014. The Randolph County WIC Program will rollout Crossroads to clients in November 2014.

Also this year the WIC caseload dropped slightly requiring more outreach and monitoring. Declining WIC Program caseloads have been a trend statewide. According to the State WIC Program the contributing factors are twofold. First, changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) lowered income eligibility requirements and increased the benefit amount for families. These changes made SNAP participation more appealing to clients than WIC. Secondly, more people are migrating to urban areas for work opportunities due to the economy, thus lowering the number of participants in more rural counties.

Finally, it is a fact that Women (pregnant, post-partum, or breastfeeding), infants and children (up to age 5) who are a nutritional risk benefit from WIC through nutrition education and the ability to purchase additional healthy foods. However, WIC also provides significant support each year to the local economy through the redemption of food vouchers issued to families. In FY2013-14 food vouchers totaling of 3.2 million dollars were redeemed in Randolph County at local grocers, corner stores and pharmacies.



WOMEN'S HEALTH

Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) was funded to screen 159 women during FY 2013-14. 99% or 157 of those women were screened for cancer. Out of those, five were diagnosed with breast cancer during the year.

BCCCP Client Summary	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Contracted caseload	200	163	159
Number screened	246	158	157
Clients 50-64 years	179 (73%)	116 (71%)	103 (66%)
Clients 49 or younger	67 (27%)	47 (29%)	54 (34%)
Clients 65 or older	0	0	0
# diagnosed with breast cancer	4	5	5
# diagnosed with cervical cancer	1	1	0

Family Planning

The number of clients served during FY 2013-14 decreased by 21% from the previous year. The largest decline was seen in the number of Hispanic clients receiving Family Planning services, which decreased by 206 clients. A factor that may have contributed to this decline is the discontinuation of the Maternity Program on December 31, 2013 and changes to the Medicaid Program.

This year, the total number of clients seen in Family Planning was 1,258. Out of those, 230 chose a long-term method of birth control.

Method	# of clients
Depo Provera	196
Oral Contraceptive	503
Intrauterine Device (IUD)	142
Nexplanon	88